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DECEMBER 2.

Mr. THEODORE D. RAND in the chair.

Sixty-eight persons present.

A paper entitled "Description of a new Japanese Scalpellum," by Henry A. Pilsbry, was presented for publication.

The death of Samuel Lewis, M. D., a member, was announced.

Geology of the South (Chester) Valley Hill.—MR. THEO. D. RAND remarked that in a paper on the serpentines he had called attention to the fact that northwest of West Chester there appeared to be an outcrop of Laurentian rock on the north side of Black Horse Run or Taylor's Run apparently enclosing a mica schist valley. He had expressed doubt as to whether it was really Laurentian.

A further study of this region convinced him that these gneisses extend several miles at least, and certainly from the east branch of the Brandywine to the High Street Road near Taylor's Mill, and that they belong properly to the mica schist formation of Cream Valley which bounds the serpentine on the north and further that these schists, often garnetiferous, compose the greater mass of this part of the South (Chester) Valley Hill, which has, he believed, been heretofore universally regarded as wholly of the hydromica schist of which it is composed a few miles to the northeast. It is true that in some places it is extremely difficult to tell one rock from the other, but where largely exposed the separation is clear. Small hand specimens often look alike, rock masses do not.

Where garnets occur they are a distinguishing feature, as he believed they are not found in the true hydromica schist. When garnets are absent, the most characteristic feature is the occurrence of the quartz, which, in the hydromica, is in lenticular masses closely covered with the hydromica which adheres strongly, while in the mica schists the quartz is either disseminated, or interlaminated in sheets frequently very thin. The fracture too is characteristic, the hydromica breaks into more or less lenticular masses, the tendency being towards very thin flat plates with very smooth surfaces, or more usually into elongated roughly oval masses on which parallel faces are almost entirely absent but still with an even smooth surface. The mica schist on the contrary is more massive, has a more or less regular lamination, breaking into masses with two nearly parallel sides, the other fractures irregular but without the tendency to come to a thin edge prevalent in the hydromica. The surfaces are rougher and somewhat corrugated. The mica schist occasionally contains feldspar, the hydromica probably never.

There is in some places at least, a marked change of dip, that of the hydromicas being almost invariably 80° and upwards and